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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Washington

Asst. Sec. Return to Amb.

November 4, 1958

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Dear Mr. Ambassador:

With further reference to your letter of October 1, 1958, relative to the hospital project in Berlin, the following paragraphs attempt to describe the situation as we understand it in Washington.

As you know, the Berliners have agreed that the Benjamin Franklin Foundation will be the "Bauherr" for the Medical Center, acting as agent for both the United States Government and the City of Berlin. The Stiftung will employ the architects and medical consultants, contract with the builders, supervise each stage of the design and construction and disburse funds received from the City of Berlin and the Department of State.

The Stiftung's authority and responsibility however will be governed not only by its Charter, a copy of which is enclosed, but also by a memorandum of agreement (preliminary draft enclosed) setting forth explicitly the conditions under which funds for constructing the hospital will be granted to the Stiftung. The Department will be kept advised as to each major stage of the process, and disbursements from United States funds to the Stiftung will be made at the Department's request on the basis of demonstrated progress. With regard to the Deutche Mark funds the Embassy will be instructed from Washington from time to time as to the payments to be made by the Embassy from funds deposited with it for the purpose.

All this, however, represents only the contractual and administrative machinery. We do not wish to imply that the Embassy's views will not be sought regarding the Medical Center project. This is intended, rather to assure you that the Embassy role is not that of the supervisor and accordingly it will not be held responsible for supervision of construction, or for other matters for which there will be disbursements to or by the Stiftung.

We shall

The Honorable
David K. E. Bruce,
American Ambassador,
Bonn.

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We shall continue to rely upon the Embassy and the Mission for information and advice concerning the project, and we hope that you will continue to take a personal interest in its development.

I agree that this was an appropriate time for your question and I hope this will clarify our mutual understanding of the Embassy's role in the Medical Center.

Yours sincerely,

Martin J. Hillenbrand

Enclosures:

Charter
Preliminary Draft

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Thursday, July 30, 1959

Captain Thro, the new Naval Attaché, came to see me this morning. He [redacted] served a couple of years in Frankfurt and is quite familiar with the German scene.

Gaston Coblentz lunched with me. We talked about The New York Herald Tribune and its future, as well as [redacted] his preparations for a book on Foster Dulles.

Dick Steinbach came in to see whether I would like to go partridge shooting near Nurenburg on September 1. I gladly accepted.

The Reverend Irvin Wise, of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, called on me with his wife. Most of his parishioners are of Welsh descent, and he is on his way to the annual festival in Wales.

This afternoon I called on the Spanish Ambassador, Marques de Bolarque. He developed further the idea of my shooting with him this autumn and also making a tour of Southern Spain with him. He is [redacted] friendly. His wife, [redacted] intensely interested in collecting antiques, has almost completely refurnished the Embassy with their own things, many of which are rare and beautiful. The Ambassador seems to have his finger in every Spanish pie. He is head of the Worthington Pump Company there (I was once a Director of the American organization), of Olin-Mathieson, and of other U S. industrial affiliates. He has his own bank and apparently.

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several houses scattered about the country. He is enthusiastic over the probable results in Spain of the recent economic measures and the obtaining of large foreign credits. His chief love seems to be Granada, where he organized and started the annual musical festival now so much featured. He is also President of the National Golf Association and, all in all, is so involved at home that he says he finds it hard to settle down to life in his first diplomatic post. He hopes it will be his last one and sees no reason why he should remain here more than two years. He is full of humor.

At 6:30 I went to see Kit Steel. He told me about his meeting a couple of days ago with the Chancellor. It has given rise to much public comment. It seems that Kit had not seen Adenauer for quite a time and suggested a meeting, but thought it might be advisable if it could be held privately, so as to avoid newspaper notice. He thought the Chancellor would settle on Rhoendorf, but instead he decided to come to Kit's house. Someone saw the Chancellor driving into the British Embassy Residence and reported it. Instead of privacy, there was an explosion of curiosity as to what might be going on, especially because of the unsatisfactory relationship between the British and German Governments.

Actually, Steel said, they did not discuss a possible visit to England, nor the Geneva Conference. Adenauer more or less

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of days ago with Eleanor Dulles on Berlin problems, and we intend to prepare a recommendation as to the disposition of U. S. money earmarked since 1954 for stockpiling. The Federal Republic has made lavish grants this year for this purpose, and we feel it is no longer necessary or advisable to retain the DM 19 million fund in a sterile condition.

Harry Stimson telephoned me this morning from Geneva to say the Secretary would like me to come down as soon as convenient.

John Peterson, formerly a Vice President at the Chase Manhattan Bank, came to see me this afternoon. His son, who is in Germany with him, recently had an automobile accident in which another person was killed. There is a case pending on appeal in the German courts, and Peterson wanted [redacted] advice as to how to handle it.

Saturday, August 1, 1959

I set forth this morning by plane for Geneva, arriv[redacted] about one o'clock. Lunched with Henry Pleasants, Bill L[redacted] Seymour Bolten at the Richemond, then to the delegation o[redacted]

At six I went to Herter's Villa Greta and attended a meeting of the American, British, French and West German delegations. At its [redacted]lusion, the Secretary asked me to remain behind with Lloyd [redacted]ve de Murville. He had just previously told me of

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the impending invitation for Khrushchev to visit America and for President Eisenhower later to go to the Soviet Union.

He took Couve to task, as de Gaulle's Foreign Minister, for the ungenerous way in which the General [redacted] replied to Eisenhower's suggestion for a Western Chiefs of State meeting in Paris the end of August. Eisenhower had repeatedly invited the General to visit the United States, without result. He now proposed to go to the mountain, and even this was not acceptable. Failing the convocation of Adenauer, Macmillan, de Gaulle and Eisenhower at Paris, the President would be willing to visit the three foreign capitals separately. Even this had not seemed to attract de Gaulle. Couve said he would communicate at once with his chief on the subject. He spoke of Eisenhower's correspondence as having displayed a [redacted] "generous" spirit.

Lloyd remarked that, although the Queen had twice visited the United States, the President had not been to Great Britain, and the British people were somewhat resentful of it. Much as they would now like him to come, the Government would waive any claims on his time and Macmillan would be willing to go to Paris, if the General would assent to the proposal, to see Eisenhower there.

After they left, Chris told me something of the history of this move. Khrushchev had sent a message to Eisenhower by the visiting American Governors. The President [redacted] replied through

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Kozlov that it might be well to have Khrushchev take a quick trip to the United States prior to a summit conference, if developments at Geneva evidenced progress. He also had suggested Quebec as the site for a summit conference. K sent a written reply saying he would like to come to the United States when the hottest weather was over, and would welcome a return visit by the President. Eisenhower then answered by saying Khrushchev's reception in the United States would depend on the nature of the outcome of the Geneva Conference. This reservation does not seem to have fazed K, and it is momentarily expected he will declare his intention of visiting America.

The Secretary believes the best time for this would be the latter part of September. Before that, toward the end of August, the President would like to have the four Western Chiefs of State get together at Paris. The broad outline of these proposals had been communicated to the Western Foreign Ministers by Herter yesterday. However, he has just heard that de Gaulle did not approve of the Paris meeting and feared the President might try to make himself spokesman for the West. In the event of a summit meeting, de Gaulle is against its taking place at Quebec.

As regards the Foreign Ministers' Conference, it is possible it could be reconvened in November, with a view to a possible summit

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meeting later that month. Gromyko has refused thus far to comment on what he proposes in the way of a recess of the present Conference. Herter is leaving for Washington Thursday morning and going three days later to Santiago, Chile to attend the sea of the Organization of American States. It is essential he do this, for, if he did not, the sensibilities of the Latin Americas would be violently wounded.

In the light of the above, Chris and I discussed my own plans, calling for my resignation to be effective September 15. I told him I feared our Government might be accused of being somewhat frivolous especially if, with these new conferences in prospect, there were a long lapse between my withdrawal and arrival of my successor. He said he had been worried about this himself but did not want to interfere with my personal wishes. I replied by telling him they should be accorded second place, and I would leave it to him as to how long he thought I should stay on. He is to let me know about this after his return to Washington.

I remained for dinner with the Herters, Bernice and Gerry Smith, the Merchants, the Irwins, and Harry Stimson.

Sunday, August 2, 1959

After a night at the Hotel des Bergues, I went to the delegation offices and later saw, with Bill Stearman, three of our

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correspondents, Bill Long, Herb Altschull and Murrey Marder of The Washington Post. The English papers today have stated there is an immediate likelihood of agreement between Eisenhower and Khrushchev on a visit by the latter to the United States. Such rumors have been current for several days, but, after the Secretary's conversation with the Foreign Ministers on Friday, the whole thing is likely to blast into print. Because of this, the White House will probably make an announcement on the subject tomorrow.

The three correspondents [redacted] smelled the same rat, and pressed me with inquiries about it. When I refused to be flushed from cover, they dropped their inquiries, but it was apparent they were already in possession of most of the facts.

We then talked of this possible encounter in theoretical terms. They knew I had always favored bilateral conversations, if they could be held without too much apprehension on the part of our Allies, between Eisenhower and Khrushchev. I consider the President our greatest unexploited asset. His prestige as a man of peace is [redacted] great abroad, probably at home as well. Although he would not be expected to negotiate with Khrushchev, I believe his sincerity and charm could be used to excellent effect, particularly in the field of disarmament. Moreover, it would be a good thing to have K gain an impression of the tremendous vitality of the

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United States. I think his most dangerous trait is his ignorance of the Western world.

I left Geneva at 2:30 and was home about 7 p.m.

Monday, August 3, 1959

At 12 o'clock I went with Joe von Elbe, Lt. Col. Banks, Col. Thomas and Roland Moores to the Foreign Office to sign the Status of Forces document. It was quite a ceremony. Van Scherpenberg represented the German Government, the Belgian, Netherlands, Canadian, British and French Ambassadors and myself the other parties. Afterwards we drank champagne, grateful to have terminated this negotiation. It [redacted] lasted for over 3 1/2 years, and the result is said to be the most favorable SOF arrangement we have entered into with any country. The contributions to it, made especially by John Hay and Joe von Elbe, are noteworthy. The other participants are also entitled to unusual credit.

Before I left for Geneva, Dr. Barbara Pleyer telephoned me to make an engagement tomorrow either here or in Geneva, to discuss her views on the Far, Middle and Near East. I never heard of her before, but understand she is a student of international politics and considers herself an expert on those areas. She is a German citizen, and I told her I had no competence in connection

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with what she wanted to converse about, and in any case would not be free to do so for an indefinite time. Undiscouraged, she harried some of the people in my office and, when I got back last night, I found she had left a letter for me at the house, again asking for an appointment to expound her views on how we must make a "spiritual" rather than a military attack against Communism. She must be a persistent young woman, for early this morning she again telephoned me. This time I flatly refused to see her. This may have been just as well, for later in the day I was warned against her.

Mrs. Ransom has figured out the number of days I have been out of Germany on official instructions, personal and sick leave. In 1957, 1958 and 1959 to date, this amounts to 164 days, of which 118 were on official duty, 45 personal leave, and 1 day sick leave.

Jean Monnet called me this afternoon. He is climbing a Swiss mountain, and I hope to meet him later in the month.

I had an engagement to see the Chancellor this afternoon but was informed he was confined to his house with a cold, probably attended by fever, and would not be allowed out of bed for several days. I am sorry to miss him, for I should have liked to hear his observations on the Eisenhower-Khrushchev business. The President wrote him a letter, delivered yesterday, in which he outlined the plan, and the Chancellor replied politely and approvingly.

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Nevertheless, it would have been at least amusing to have [redacted] him expound his innermost thoughts on the subject. He has always clamored for the United States to exercise a greater degree of leadership and to confront the other great powerin the world, if necessary through bilateral dealings. At the same time, he remains [redacted] suspicious of our ability to conduct ourselves under such circumstances with requisite skill.

I received today the following letter from Secretary Herter (see page 58).

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American Consulate General,
Geneva, Switzerland,
July 27, 1959.

Dear David:

Mac and I and all the members of the delegation who were in Berlin were deeply moved by the events of the day. There is no question in my mind now but that the visit was a desirable thing to have done. All your suggestions worked out very well, and I am most appreciative of your sage advice and careful planning.

Best as ever,

Christian A. Herter

The Honorable
David K. E. Bruce,
American Ambassador,
Bonn.

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Tuesday, August 4, 1959

E, Sasha and I left this morning for Frankfurt at 7:30. After an hour's wait at the airport, we boarded an Alitalia plane, and two and a quarter hours later descended on Rome. Jim and Ashley met us and took us to Villa Wolkonsky.

We swam in the Hitlerian pool, and tonight dined with Kay and Phil Graham at the Capriccio. They have fallen in love with this city, but must go tomorrow to London on their way home.

Wednesday, August 5, 1959

After a cool night, we went to the Piazza di Spagna, then stopped at the Hotel Ambasciatori, collected the Graham family of six, and fed the children ice cream. Back to the villa for lunch; afterwards siesta, swimming and talk. Ashley has been here almost six years and is a great favorite, as he deserves to be. Much conversation with him about the Common Market, Eisenhower-Khrushchev visits, the Italian Foreign Office and many other things.

I never tire of this magnificent park. It must comprise twelve acres, and is surrounded by a towering brick wall. Remains of a mighty aqueduct run through it. Everywhere there are marble fragments. In part of it was a Christ-time cemetery, and the unexplored ground would probably still yield many antique treasures. The place was developed by Princess Wolkonsky about 1830. Her

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original villa is now the Chancery, and the present vast house was built in 1900 by an inheritor. It became the German Embassy, was seized during or after the last war by the Italian Government, and turned over to the British, whose own Embassy had been destroyed.

Thursday, August 6, 1959

No disturbing news has filtered through to this retreat, and our lazy life continues deliciously.

Friday, August 7, 1959

Usual sunny day, ideal for swimming and basking. We left reluctantly at 16:30 by Lufthansa for Duesseldorf, sad to say goodby to those cherished Clarkes.

Some of our Congressmen, so queasy about adequate accommodations for our Ambassadors, might well study the British fashion of doing such things. Also, they - good Church of Englanders - have never boggled over representation at the Vatican, the lack of which is a real flaw in our diplomatic equipment.

The Italian desire for representation at a Summit meeting is even stronger than ever. Merchant arrived here this morning, and will be assailed with their arguments, which are, generally, of two varieties. First, Italy has accepted missile bases and has contributed her fair share of the NATO military effort. Second, the existing government has a tenuous hold on power, and is criticized for not

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playing a larger part in decisions involving risks of war. Per contra, some other NATO countries see no reason to single out Italy for preference. She was an Axis partner, and became a turncoat only when the tide had set in against Germany.

Ashley told me Montgomery's references in his Memoirs to the Italian military performance during the last war [redacted] occasioned him the utmost embarrassment. They were bitterly resented and official representations made about them. Finally, the Field Marshal wrote Ashley a letter somewhat soothing to Italian national pride. The Prime Minister construed it as being in the nature of an apology, but the barb still rankles.

As soon as I reached home, I became involved in arrangements about the Eisenhower European tour. Julius Klein called me tonight from von Brentano's to say that the Chancellor and Foreign Minister were in despair over being left out of the circuit, and were relying on me to help them, as I seemed to be their "only reliable American friend". How Julius injected himself into this affair I do not know, and I question the accuracy of his long report, but must confess I am disturbed at the Chancellor's toying with the idea of going to Washington.

Saturday, August 8, 1959

The morning brought a telegram from the Department requiring

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an immediate interview with Adenauer. Fortunately, I had already made an appointment with him, so I called on him in Rhoendorf at 10:30. I told him the substance of my "Presidential Handling" message.

Having disposed of business, I then spent a fascinating hour with the Chancellor, who, for the first time, showed me his pictures on the bedroom floor. They were finer, I thought, than those in his reception rooms. He has just acquired a Titian of Pope Paul II or III, a picture of strength and quality, as well as a [redacted] pleasing Raphael. It amazes me to think there could be such an unknown and veritable Raphael, but Adenauer at least is quite confident of the validity of its attribution. He has attractive paintings of the Cologne school, a couple of Rembrandts, an amusing Breughel, a colorful Bellini, and numbers of early Italian religious paintings. One thing is certain - he loves his paintings, and his interest in them is a passion.

He told me he was concerned over the timing of my proposed resignation and, after some flattering remarks, asked if I objected to his making a personal request of the President, if they met later in the month, to ask me to remain here until Eisenhower returns from Moscow. I was nonplused, though the Chancellor's acts of personal diplomacy are often unorthodox, and replied I had no objections. I

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imagine and hope the questions of when I leave and of my successor will have been settled before the two meet.

We also had a talk about European political unity. He [redacted] instructed von Brentano last night to draw up new proposals for it. He recognizes the importance of attempting something in this field while de Gaulle and he are in power. He observed: "It was particularly my interest in it that decided me against having Erhard replace me as Chancellor, for although he is an able man he has never fully understood the great importance of European integration." Adenauer remarked that Pinay considered de Gaulle was now a believer in a political Union of the Six, but Debré was against it, and must be converted.

I decided not to return to the office this afternoon, and instead swam and read a gripping book by René Guerdan: "Vie, Grandeurs et Misères de Venise". Bill Tyler came to dinner, and we consumed a good bottle of 1921 Chateau Pichon Lalande.

This morning, I [redacted] informed Adenauer of the arrangement just completed for the President to see Italian Prime Minister Segni in Paris on September 3, and for Segni to pay an official visit to Washington on September 30. In addition, the President will see Dr. Luns, President of the NATO Council, and Spaak, Secretary-General, in Paris. This tidies things up considerably.

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Bob Murphy telephoned me twice from Washington this afternoon. The President had been told of my morning message, and has decided to come to Bonn, but will not remain overnight, since he wishes to leave for London in the late afternoon. I shall notify Dr. Globke of this tonight.

Sunday, August 9, 1959

Bill Tyler came to see me early this morning with a message from the Department announcing a release at 10 a.m. Washington time (3 p.m. here) from the White House, of the President's visit to Bonn. We were also told he will have with him perhaps as many as 150 people, including 80 journalists.

At the office, in the accumulated correspondence, I found the following interchange of letters between Adenauer and Secretary Herter. (Pages 65-67.)

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